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Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

OLD CITY HALL AT ALTON, ILL., DESTROYED BY FIRE

1924

Historic Building in Which One
of Lincoln - Douglass Debates
Was Held in 1858, Completely
Destroyed — Blaze Believed of
Incendiary Origin.

By Associated Press

Alton, Ill., April 12.—The Alton city hall, historic building of colonial design and scene of the Lincoln-Douglass debate in 1858, was destroyed by fire this morning.

Mayor John Elble says that there is no doubt the building was set afire.

A high wind was blowing and within a few hours the building was a wreck with part of the walls fallen.

The city carried insurance to the amount of \$14,000 on the building, but there may be a question as to realizing on it owing to the fact that the place had been vacated to the contractors who were to remodel the building.

SHADES OF LINCOLN CLUNG TO ALTON'S OLD CITY HALL

Building Recently Destroyed by Fire Was Scene of
Last Debate With Douglas—Future President's
Stand Against Slavery Won Applause

MANY historic associations were gathered around the City Hall of Alton, Ill., which was destroyed by fire recently. Alton had been discussing with some fervor whether or not the City Hall should be renovated and made fireproof, in order to insure its preservation as a place of national interest. When the matter came to a head it was found that the plans would require \$50,000 more than had been expected, and a certain group recommended that the building be torn down and the site used for a public square. With discussion at its height and opinion much divided, the old structure went up in flames, and it is possible that an incendiary was responsible.

Alton is a town near the Mississippi River and just a few miles northeast of St. Louis. The place is of interest because it was there in the City Hall that the last of the debates between Lincoln and Douglas took place, in 1858. There, too, in the years just after the Civil War came President Johnson, together with Seward and Grant. Those were the days when the other side of the river had comparatively few towns and when Illinois settlers represented the opinion and thought of that section of the Middle West. When the Presidential visit was made there was much ceremony; a fleet of twenty-eight river steamers conveyed the party from Alton to St. Louis, their great stern wheels churning the shallow waters of the Mississippi. That was the type of boat that Mark Twain said could "run on a heavy dew." With bands playing on the forward deck and whistles blowing, the fleet of river craft made it a great day for the towns along the shore.

But 1858, the year that Lincoln and Douglas took the platform and spoke throughout the State of Illinois, was the banner year for Alton City Hall. Douglas, popularly known as "the Little Giant," was a man of established position. He was widely respected and feared for his ability in a contest of words. Historians say his technique lay in his faculty for clouding the point at issue with some of its minor attributes and ripping these irrelevancies so to tatters that the bewildered listener concluded that he had won the main point, when as a matter of fact he had not argued squarely at all. Another reason why he often won in debate was that he indulged in personalities to such a degree that his opponents often lost command of themselves and their addresses and floundered hopelessly.

In striking contrast to these doubtful methods were Lincoln's clear logic, straight thinking and poise. The tall, awkward young lawyer never lost control of the situation. Each man had the interest of the countryside, and people many times flocked to the debates more from a love of sportsmanship than

to hear timely political questions discussed. Two such important figures in the events of the day and two such contrasting personalities were worth going miles to hear.

On the night of the memorable debate at Alton the little town was filled with people who had come from far and near. Feeling ran high because the questions discussed were those on which the whole nation was divided, namely, States' rights and the slavery issue. Bonfires were lighted, every store and house held its group of men who felt keenly about the debate, and there was great excitement.

Stephen A. Douglas, short and sturdy, with his handsome head held high, was the favorite. He took the stand that the States of the Union should be allowed to control their own policies apart from national interference—and he wished that belief to be applied to the slavery question. Kansas, then a territory, was applying for admission to the Union, and there was much discussion as to whether it should enter as a slave State or free State. Douglas contended that the statement of the Declaration of Independence that "all men are free and equal" did not apply to the negro. Regarding the question whether slavery was right, morally, he declared he was completely indifferent. In maintaining his indifference on that point he lost the backing of persons who held convictions on the subject. Douglas put Lincoln in an uncomfortable light by declaring that Lincoln wished to place the negro on a plane of social equality with the white man, which was the rankest heresy in those days, and was not Lincoln's attitude at all. Douglas spoke with great heat and his address was not well constructed, inasmuch as he had to conclude his remarks very hurriedly as the hour drew to a close.

Lincoln's place in Illinois politics was not nearly so assured as that of Judge Douglas. But his speech that night was recognized as the speech of a thinker, of a man of conscience and courage, and his refutation of points made by his opponent brought applause several times. He sifted the wheat from the chaff and centred the attention of his audience on the real subject of the debate. His belief was that the States would have to agree to what was best for the nation, and if necessary give up some of their rights. He maintained that only in union would there be lasting strength. And in applying this principle he wanted the nation to face the problem of the moral wrong of slavery as against the accepted theories.

When Lincoln had been a young boy he was present at a slave auction near the place of his birth in Kentucky. What he saw there had made him

that if and when he got a chance he was going to hit at slavery with all his might. The chance had come to him, and with an eloquence which amazed all he declared in this debate that for one human being to own absolutely another of God's thinking creatures was wrong and should not be continued. Quoting the Bible, the Declaration, the Constitution, and even going so far as to say that in the Dred Scott decision the United States Supreme Court had taken the wrong stand, Lincoln caused all who heard him to think and decide for themselves in the grave matter of slavery.

Lincoln was not adjudged the winner of the debate, but events since that night reversed the decision of the judges. Three years later, when President Lincoln continued to state these principles, the war between the States began and slavery came to an end.

During President Johnson's Administration the City Hall again sheltered men who made history. The President and Mr. Seward made short speeches there. General Grant, who was in the party, maintained his usual silence, but he was the popular visitor and received much applause.

The New York Times

"All The News That's Fit to Print."

Published Every Day in the Year by
THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY.

ADOLPH S. OCHS, Publisher and President
B. C. Franck, Secretary.

NEW YORK, WED., APRIL 23, 1924.

LINCOLN LANDMARK DESTROYED BY FIRE

Alton (Ill.) City Hall Was the
Scene of the Debate With
Douglas in 1858.

ALTON, Ill., April 22.—The Alton City Hall, scene of the Lincoln-Douglas debate in 1858, was destroyed by fire today. Officials said they believed it was of incendiary origin. Considerable objection had been expressed, they said, to plans for the remodeling of the building, which was vacant.

The cost of the work was to be \$50,000 more than the sum provided in a bond issue. Firemen said that the odor of burning oil was strong.

TESTIMONY of Charles E. Ives concerning Abraham Lincoln's visit to Amboy in August 1858, prior to the Lincoln-Douglas debate at Freeport, being a portion of the testimony taken in Long et al. v. Walker et al., Lee County, Chancery No. 4728, and appearing in the transcript of evidence filed by Special Master Albert H. Hanneken on January 15, 1934, at page 215 et seq.

215 CHARLES E. IVES, witness for defendants, being first duly sworn was examined by Mr. Dixon, and testified:-

Q. What is your name?

216 A. Charles E. Ives.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. Amboy, Illinois.

Q. How long have you lived in Amboy, Illinois?

A. Seventy-six years.

Q. How old are you?

A. Eighty-eight years.

Q. What year were you admitted to the practice of the law in this State?

A. I have forgotten, but it was in the eighties.

Q. In the eighties?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Your father was a lawyer before you was he not?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Do you remember your boyhood days in Amboy?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you attend the Lincoln-Douglas debate in Freeport?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Where was Mr. Lincoln the day before the Douglas debate at Freeport?

A. He was here at Amboy in my father's office.

Q. Your father was a lawyer here?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you hear him make a speech here that night?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And you went to Freeport the next day?

A. Yes sir, went up on the train.

- Q. That was in 1858 was it not?
- A. Yes, that was in August I think, 1858. My father sat with Mr. Lincoln going to Freeport on the train and my grandfather and I sat behind them.
- Q. Lincoln stayed all night at Amboy?
- A. Yes sir, here at Amboy. At the station here there used to be a hotel, upstairs in the depot building was the hotel.
- 217 Q. Were you up at the hotel with him that night?
- A. No sir.
- Q. Do you remember where he made the speech at Amboy that night?
- A. In front of my father's office in front of where Frank Vaughn's undertaking establishment is now.
- Q. The boulder in front of the undertaking establishment is in the proper place is it not?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. What did Lincoln talk about that night?
- A. He didn't talk very much, he didn't make very much of a speech, he told them that he was going to Freeport the next morning and that they could go up there and hear him.
- - - - -
- 222 Q. Going back to history again Mr. Ives, do you remember what time that August day, 1858, Lincoln arrived in Amboy?
- A. I think at two o'clock in the afternoon, the train came that time.
- Q. What did he do the rest of the afternoon?
- A. As I remember he came over to my father's office.
- Q. Your father had met him before?
- A. Yes, he was acquainted with him.
- Q. He had gotten acquainted with him at Bloomington, had he?
- 223 A. At Springfield, he used to attend the court there, my father's brother was a lawyer at Bloomington, and he used to come up there

and father used to go there, and he got acquainted with Mr. Lincoln.

Q. Did he travel alone or was anybody travelling with him when he came to Amboy?

A. He was alone.

Q. He was alone?

A. Yes sir.

Q. There were no newspaper men or reporters or correspondents with him?

A. No. Next day when he got to Freeport, Tom Turner met him at the depot, and he got into a buggy and the people drew him to the hotel. He was an awfully homely man, and just as common as a farmer, and Douglas was dressed in the height of fashion.

Q. Lincoln was a kindly dispositioned man wasn't he?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Was he good to you as a little boy?

A. Yes sir, The table I have out in the kitchen was the office table and that is probably the one that Mr. Lincoln put his feet on. My father's office was full of people when they heard that Lincoln was there.

Q. Do you remember any of the people who were in the office that afternoon?

A. No.

Preserved by George C. Dexter, Dexter, Ill.

Lincoln Questionnaire

Name of town Amboy County Lee State IllDate or dates when Lincoln spoke there Aug 26Has a marker or monument ever been erected to commemorate his address? yesIf so, when was it dedicated? ?Is any literature referring to it, or a photograph of it available? I have never seen or heard of any.Any further information such as donor, inscription on tablet, or other data of interest would be appreciated. It is just a rough ordinary stone indicating merely that Lincoln spoke there.

Abraham Lincoln Toasts The Citizens Of Athens, Illinois

Abraham Lincoln and other members of the famous "Long Nine" Legislators were banqueted in this building, August 3, 1837, for their most successful efforts in the Illinois General Assembly that moved the seat of Government from Vandalia to Springfield, Illinois



Men, women and children will be entertained and their time well accounted for in recalling these new unfolded episodes in the life of Abraham Lincoln as depicted by Nationally known artists. Lincoln Scholars will be enlightened.

Dioramas — by artist — Mr. Art Sieving:

Several dioramas will depict all of those documented events which placed Lincoln in Athens, Illinois. Tourists will be fascinated by the hand carved 12" scale wooden figures in the diorama 3-D scenes. All items: furniture — utensils — tools — buildings — animals are hand carved from wood. Mr. Sieving is the sculptor for the "Ninian" Edwards Home Museum" — *The Life of Lincoln (in twenty-six dioramas)*, Springfield, Illinois. Mr. Sieving is also the Dioramist for the "Mark Twain — Tom Sawyer Museum" — in Hanibal, Missouri.

Paintings — by artist — Dr. Lloyd Ostendorf:

A nine by six foot original oil painting of the Long Nine Banquet Scene with Abraham Lincoln toasting the Long Nine members and the citizens of Athens as described by the *Sangamo Journal* August 1837 issue — Dr. Lloyd Ostendorf's works are prominent in the "Lincoln College Museum", Lincoln, Illinois. Dr. Ostendorf's paintings are featured on the covers of the Lincoln Herald Magazine.

Research — by historian — Dr. Wayne Temple:

Documentation of those events associating Abraham Lincoln with Athens, Illinois, will be displayed. Dr. Wayne Temple, with the Illinois State Archives, is the Editor and Chief of the *Lincoln Herald Magazine*. Dr. Temple gave the Lincoln Day Address from the Lincoln Memorial and Senate Wing of the Capitol, Washington, D.C., February 12, 1971.

Artifacts:

Displays of antique items found in the building during the restoration. Iron spittoons — the original candle chandelier — old tools — bottles — etc.

Gift Shop:

Souvenirs by the artists: Mr. Art Sieving, Dr. Lloyd Ostendorf and citizens of Athens, Illinois

"Long Nine" Building — ATHENS, ILLINOIS — TENTATIVE OPENING DATE — May, 1973

Located on the "Old Lincoln Trail" — Route 29 — between Springfield and New Salem State Park — 12 miles Northwest of Springfield, Illinois — 7 miles East of New Salem State Park. Shortest Route to Route 66 and Interstate 55.

Opening Date - May, 1973

VISIT
YOUNG ABE LINCOLN
IN ATHENS, ILLINOIS
at the
LONG NINE MUSEUM



In this original 1832 building, now restored-- Abraham Lincoln and other members of the famous "Long Nine" from the Illinois State Legislature were banqueted and thanked for their successful efforts that moved the Capital from Vandalia to Springfield.

Inside this ancient structure (officially designated as an Illinois Historic Site and so marked with the state historical marker) you will see sculptured dioramas and original paintings depicting young Abraham Lincoln in Athens, Illinois. YOU will SEE:

Abe, the Surveyor in Athens.
Abe, the Railsplitter in Athens.
Abe, the Politician in Athens.
Abe, the Self-taught Scholar in Athens.
Abe, the Lawyer . . . with a client from Athens.
Abe, the Friend of all in Athens.

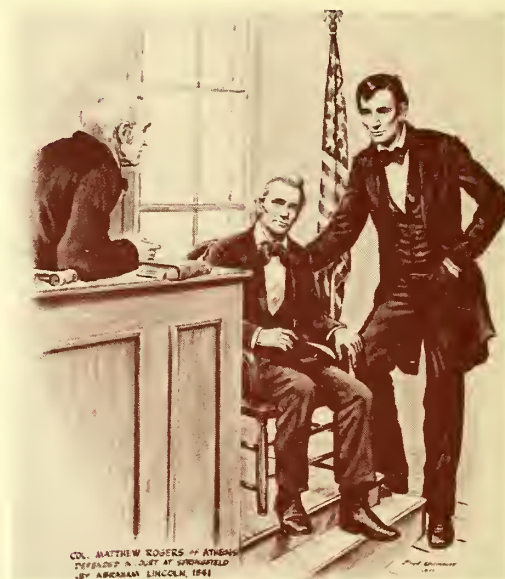
**THESE NEWLY-UNFOLDED EPISODES IN THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN
BY ARTISTS KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE NATION.
EVEN LINCOLN SCHOLARS WILL BE ENLIGHTENED.**



See *ABE*, the Railsplitter, working on the Kincaid farm just north of Athens: a diorama



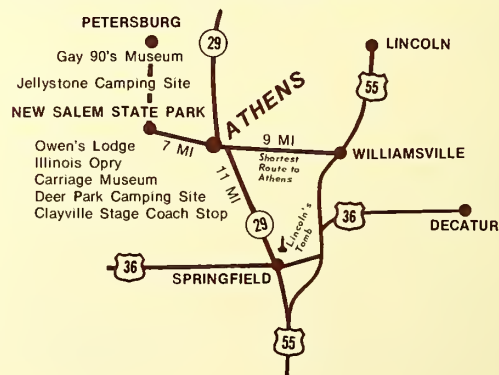
See *ABE*, the Politician, making a speech at Athens during his 1836 campaign: a diorama.



See *ABE*, the Lawyer, representing Col. Rogers in his suit to recover the "Long Nine" building in 1841: a diorama.

See:

- The "Long Nine" Gallery.
- The restored banquet room.
- The restored Athens Post Office.
- The Lincoln life mask by Clark Mills.
- The Lincoln mask by Leonard Volk.
- The Lincoln life bust by T.D. Jones.
- The Lincoln Tomb in 1/10 scale.
- Other Lincoln dioramas and art work.



AM LINCOLN ARE DEPICTED

DIORAMAS in 3D, by the artist Art Sieving, depict all of those documented times that Lincoln visited Athens, Illinois. Carved in wood to scale.

PAINTINGS, by the artist Dr. Lloyd Ostendorf. One of them, 9 by 6 feet, hangs in the restored banquet room. It shows the "Long Nine" banquet scene on August 3, 1837, with Rep. Abraham Lincoln toasting the citizens of Athens as described by the *Sangamo Journal*.

RESEARCH, by the historian Dr. Wayne C. Temple, documents the events portrayed in the dioramas, etc. Copies of these documents are displayed for study and authentication.

ARTIFACTS, found in the building during the restoration, are displayed. They include the original candle chandelier, an iron spittoon, a Harper's Ferry rifle, antique tools, etc.

GENERAL STORE, in the building, offers original works by the artists Art Sieving, Dr. Lloyd Ostendorf, and citizens of Athens.

BOX LUNCHES may be ordered from the Museum by reservation.

PICNIC AREA across from the Museum.

PARKING for buses and autos.

EMERGENCY CAR SERVICE every day.

FOR RESERVATIONS 1-(217) 636-8773 or write Long Nine Museum, Box 9, Athens, Illinois 62613

Open year around and hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays; also special hours available with a reservation.

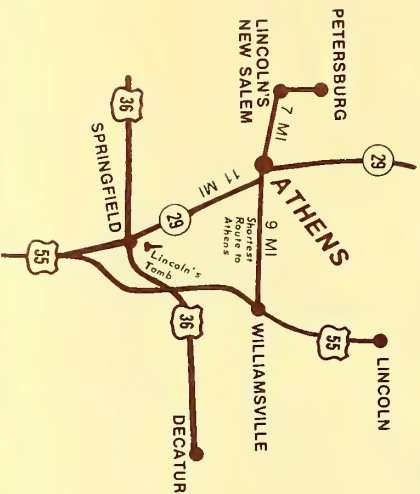
ATHENS, ILLINOIS, is located on the "Ole Lincoln Trail," Route 29, between Springfield and New Salem State Park. This is the shortest route to and from New Salem and Route 66 or Interstate 55. Long Nine Museum is on Main Street.



See *ABE* and *ANN RUTLEDGE* borrowing books from Col. Roger's home in Athens: a diorama.



See *ABE* telling one of his many stories in front of the "Long Nine" building in Athens: a diorama.



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

By
Wayne C. Sample

Apr. 1, 1974

Springfield, Illinois



A joyous and seldom-referred-to event in the life of Abraham Lincoln will be commemorated on August 3 in Athens where, one hundred and forty years ago, he and his "Long Nine" associates were feted at a "sumptuous" banquet in appreciation of their efforts to establish the seat of Illinois government in Springfield. Two senators and seven representatives, all unusually tall men, steered the bill through the Legislature. The General Assembly authorized the move of the Capitol from Vandalia on February 28, 1837.

The citizens of Athens, then included in Sangamon County, served the dinner on the second floor of a building erected in 1832. Representative Lincoln, leader of the "Long Nine," was termed "one of nature's nobility." Lincoln replied by toasting his loyal friends and declared: "Sangamon County will ever be true to her best interests and never more so than in reciprocating the good feelings of the citizens of Athens and neighborhood."

The famous "Long Nine Building" still stands with its original floorboards where the banquet was served and is now an historic site marked by the Illinois State Historical Society and the Illinois Department of Transportation.

THEREFORE I, James R. Thompson, Governor of the State of Illinois, proclaim August 3, 1977, ATHENS LONG NINE DAY and commend the people of Athens on the pride they have in their Lincoln heritage.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-SIXTH day of JULY, in the
Year of Our Lord, one thousand, nine hundred
and SEVENTY-SEVEN, and of the State of
Illinois, the one hundred and FIFTY-NINTH

Alan J. Dixon
SECRETARY OF STATE

James R. Thompson
GOVERNOR

Friday, December 2, 2005

Shed where Lincoln slept to highlight community tour

By Connie Seastedt

seastedtfamily@yahoo.com

ATLANTA -- A shed where a 19th century circuit-riding lawyer named Abraham Lincoln used to spend the night will be a highlight of Saturday's community tour.

Atlanta's third annual Town and Country Christmas Tour of Homes from 3 to 6 p.m. also will feature the Atlanta Catholic Church, the Atlanta Library and Museum, two homes in town and two country homes.

The Maple Hurst estate, 2459 2200th Ave., will be open from 4 to 6 p.m. and will include a tour of the original shed on the grounds that served as Lincoln's sleeping quarters.

"It looks like a museum in the shed. I've put together shadow boxes with information and even put logs in the original potbelly stove that Lincoln slept next to," said sixth-generation homeowner Anne Newcomb.

Newcomb said the first house on the property, a log cabin, was built in 1830 and later demolished. The current home was built in 1868.

The 13-room, two-story Victorian home with large white pillars on the outside still has the original look, Newcomb said. The only major change was a full-size bathroom built from the back porch on the first floor.

Newcomb said she also gutted the kitchen but rebuilt it using the same look. Everything else is in its original condition.

"I've kept all the antiques and look to how it was in the beginning because that helps tell the story of this house," said Newcomb.

Newcomb said tornadoes in 1968 took out many of the outbuildings, but they didn't touch the shed where Lincoln slept.

"I'm not sure why he chose to sleep over in our shed," she said. "I know he stayed several places around here and we were about the halfway point between Springfield and Bloomington, but I don't know why it was our place he stopped."

Newcomb inherited the home from her father, who died a year and a half ago.

"It means a great deal to me to live here," said Newcomb, "At first I didn't think I could handle it because it's so big, but I am so happy and proud of it now."

She said it took her two months to decorate the home and property for the tour.

"I can't wait to show everyone around while also telling them all about the history of this estate," she said.

The tour was moved to Saturday this year because of a conflict with the city of Lincoln's tour on Sunday.

organizer Billie Cheek said.

Tickets cost \$7 and will be available Saturday at the Atlanta-Eminence Community Building, where a variety of desserts will be available.

Cheek said over the years they have averaged over 100 people viewing the homes, which she said is great numbers for a small town. "Every penny goes back into the community to help with future projects, so they are getting their moneys worth," said Cheek.

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[Close window](#)

FIND DEFINITE DATE OF LINCOLN'S VISIT TO AUGUSTA AS AUG. 25TH

The Illinois Locomotive Dec. 5, 1932
Seventy-Four Year Old Newspaper (Plymouth Locomotive) Speaks from the Past to Enlighten the People on an Important Date

IT WAS A GREAT DAY FOR AUGUSTA

Congressional Convention Was Being Held at the Presbyterian Church on the Day Abraham Lincoln Spoke Here

Editors' Note—Like a voice from the past the Plymouth Locomotive, a newspaper published in Plymouth during the trying years before the war, comes to give much important information upon a most important date in Augusta and state history. It tells about the meeting when Abraham Lincoln delivered his speech in Augusta. The first accurate account and the only printed account known.

For many years it has been a question of dispute as to the date when Lincoln delivered his Augusta speech. The Hancock county history decided upon September 28th, as the date A. Lincoln was in Augusta, while the Augusta history decided the 18th of Sept. So some other dates in dispute were Oct. 27th and Sept. 25. The D. A. R. when putting up a marker in Augusta didn't know just what to do so they put on their marker just September 1858.

The seventy-four year old Plymouth Locomotive speaks from the past to tell us the truth and says that it was on Wednesday, Aug. 25, 1858. Another thing it tells us which no one seems to have known is Augusta was the meeting place for the congressional convention, an important political meeting in the days when these conventions nominated the candidates for state assembly and congress. It was most unusual for a town the size of Augusta to have a congressional convention. This convention was held in the old Presbyterian church building which stood where the present church stands.

This convention being held in Augusta answered another question which has been asked by historians the state over and that is—"Why was Abraham Lincoln's Augusta address different from the general run of his speeches at that time?" No doubt the answer can be found in the fact that

Mr. Lincoln realized, because of the congressional convention he was talking to many, if not all, the party leaders of Western Illinois as well as the general voters of the town and vicinity.

This paper is the property of M. E. Young of Plymouth and below we give comment by Mrs. George Catlin who for many years has been active in Augusta history, and reproduce the article published in the Plymouth paper Saturday, August 28, 1858.

Comment by Mrs. Catlin

Since and before the publication of Augusta's story, the date of Lincoln's visit to Augusta has been disputed. At least four different dates have been advanced as the correct one. Recently a copy of the Plymouth Locomotive, one of the earliest papers published in Hancock county has come to our notice. This issue was printed three days after Lincoln's visit to Augusta and should be authoritative. We give the following account as published in the Plymouth Locomotive, Saturday, August 28, 1858:

The Republican Demonstration at Augusta

"We rode over to Augusta on Wednesday in company with a score or two of our townsmen, to hear the music, see the folks and listen to a speech from the standard bearer of the republican party in the state—the Hon. Abe Lincoln, who was advertised to hold forth on that occasion.

When we arrived on the ground, about 1 o'clock, it was evident that something was going to be done. The streets were thronged with people, and more coming in every direction, with banners flying and drums beating. The congressional convention was in session in the Presbyterian church, and were just giving a round of cheers over the nomination of Jack Grimshaw of Quincy for Congress.

The church was crowded to its utmost capacity, so that there was not room for "one more." John C. Bagby of Rushville, we understood, was nominated for State Senator, after which

the convention adjourned. About half-past one p. m. the marshalls formed the crowd into line and the procession marched to a beautiful grove in the suburbs of the town where a stage had been erected and seats had been prepared for the accommodation of the crowd. During the march to the grove, three brass bands were playing their best, flags and banners were carried by the different delegations and all together made quite an imposing appearance. Col. James Miller, our present state treasurer, and a candidate for re-election, on the republican ticket, was first introduced and made a brief speech. He said his being an executive officer the duties of which were prescribed by law, it was unnecessary for him to enter into a discussion of the politics of the day. He would, however, repeal the charge of abolitionism which was so often brought against him and the whole republican party. Mr. Lincoln then straightened himself out, and was introduced by the chairman as the man who, God willing and the people acquiescing, would occupy a seat in the next United States Senate by the side of the gallant Trumbull, and in the place of Stephen A. Douglas who has misrepresented us for the last six years. The chairman then called for three cheers for Lincoln, and three cheers were given which made the woods ring. Mr. Lincoln commenced his speech by saying in such a comical way as none but himself could say it that he supposed all those who cared anything about him were very glad to see him alive; for if they had read in the democratic paper an account of his contest with Judge Douglas at Ottawa a few days previous, they might very naturally suppose that he would have been dead before this time. He went on in this strain for a few minutes, which set his audience in a very good humor, and then branched off into a discussion of the questions at issue between the republican and democratic parties. We cannot give anything like a synopsis of his speech, having taken no notes. It was different somewhat from any of his speeches that we have read, and yet the main arguments were the same. He quoted the speeches and writings of Clay and Jefferson to show his views on the slavery question, as expressed in his Springfield speech, are the same as were enter-

tained by those great statesmen. He also quoted from his own speeches made years ago and at different places to show that his position was the same today that it had always been. His speech occupied about an hour and a half and was interrupted by frequent bursts of applause and peals of laughter. A shower came up just about the time Mr. Lincoln commenced speaking, which dampened the exercises somewhat and we expected to see a general stampede from the grounds, but very few left their places, even the ladies of whom there were a large number present, kept their seats till the speech was finished."

The contest, as mentioned by Lincoln in this speech, between himself and Judge Douglas at Ottawa a few days previous, is a matter of history—for this was the first of the famous debates between Lincoln and Douglas and occurred August 21, 1858.

We also quote from Scofield's History of Hancock county, page 735.

Springfield, Aug. 11, 1858

Alex Simpson, Esq.

Dear Sir—

Yours of the 6th received. If life and health continues I shall pretty surely be at Augusta on the 25th. Things look reasonably well. Will tell you more fully when I see you.

Yours truly,

A. Lincoln.

The above evidence should prove conclusively that Lincoln's last visit to Augusta occurred August 25, 1858.

Harriette C. Catlin.

Augusta, Ill.

LINCOLN'S VISIT TO AUGUSTA

A citizen of Plymouth resurrected a copy of the Plymouth Locomotive, published at that place seventy-four years ago, which contains an account of the visit of Abraham Lincoln to Augusta in 1858. The date of the month of Lincoln's visit to Augusta has never been definitely settled and for many years had been a question of dispute. It was finally decided that the Augusta history give the date as September 28th but the old newspaper just resurrected says that the date of Lincoln's visit was August 25, 1858. This evidence is beyond dispute. Lincoln made a speech at Augusta at the time. The Locomotive contains a very good account of the visit and speech, which was published in the Augusta Eagle last week.

The Navoo Independent (Ill)
12-15-31
Now is the time to subscribe.



Bellevue Asylum, Batavia, Illinois
(Condo's now) 5/29/01

Front view
address #333 Jefferson Street



Bellevue
Aptium
(now Kondo's) 5/29/01



the historic train station in
Batavia, Illinois where
Mary Lincoln arrived from
Chicago. (near Bellevue.)

5/29/01



Bellevue is located
at the corner of Union
and Jefferson Streets in
Batavia, Illinois
5/29/01

Former first lady's bed brings fame to Batavia

By Erin Sauder, Staff Reporter
Batavia Republican
Fri May 11, 2007, 04:18 PM CDT

BATAVIA, IL -

Who would have thought a bed could bring such notoriety to Batavia? Certainly not Carla Hill, director of the Batavia Depot Museum, but she's not balking at the honor.

Instead, she's relishing the fact that the bed slept on by Mary Todd Lincoln and housed at the Batavia Depot Museum is now a focal point for the "Mary Todd Lincoln: First Lady of Controversy" exhibit at the new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in Springfield.

"We're very excited about it. It's a wonderful opportunity for Batavia," she said.

The three-quarter length bed, which came to the Batavia museum through a donor decades ago, usually sits in the Mary Todd Lincoln Room at the Batavia Depot Museum, 1345 S. Batavia Ave. The room also contains a dresser and other historical amenities.

Earlier this year, the Batavia Depot Museum staff was touring the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum when they were asked if they were interested in loaning the bed for the new exhibit.

"That's how it ended up down there," Hill said.

In place of the bed at the Batavia museum, visitors will see an advertisement for the Springfield exhibit, which gives visitors a chance to delve into the life of Mary Todd Lincoln, beginning with her childhood through her courtship with Abraham Lincoln to her role as wife and mother and eventually as the First Lady of the United States. The exhibit also examines the darker times of Mrs. Lincoln's life, including the tragedy surrounding the Civil War, the death of one son, the assassination of her husband, and the estrangement from another son.

Guests can explore dozens of artifacts such as the bed, as well as her clothing, accessories, jewelry, photos and letters. The exhibit also showcases newly uncovered documents related to two special elements of controversy — the First Lady's precarious finances, and her insanity trial, confinement to the Bellevue Sanitarium and release.

Allison Pellegrino, director of marketing and public relations for the Batavia Park District, praised the exhibit for drawing attention to Batavia in Springfield.

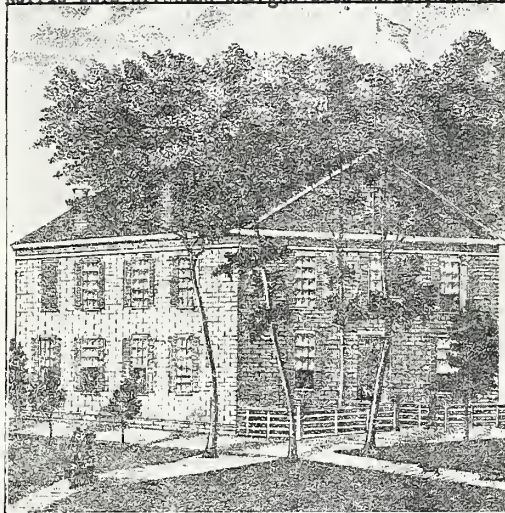
"Batavia should be proud we're being represented on a state-wide level," she said. "Batavia's on the map."

The "Mary Todd Lincoln: First Lady of Controversy" exhibit is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Oct. 28. For more information, visit www.alplm.org or call (800) 610-2094.

THE OLD CASS COUNTY COURT HOUSE AT BEARDSTOWN, ILLINOIS, NOW IN
USE AS THE CITY HALL OF BEARDSTOWN, ILLS.

THE OLD BUILDING pictured below was built in 1845, and became the court house of Cass County, Ills. for at that time, beardstown was the county seat of Cass Co. and it was in use for this purpose until 1875, when Virginia became County Seat.

On the night of August, 1857, a camp meeting was in progress at Grove in Mason Co. and about a mile from camp, a party named Watkins opened a saloon, dispensing intoxicants to the rough elements which frequent such public gatherings. In the evening William, Aline "Duff" Armstrong and James Norris were fighting with Preston Metzger and during the fight, Metzger was struck in the head with a heavy piece of wood, which fractured his skull, causing his death shortly after. Armstrong and Norris were arrested charged with murder, and Norris after a trial



The Old court house as it was in 1858

at Lewiston. Mason County was convicted of second degree murder and was sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary, but Armstrong, warned with the result of Norris trial, secured a change of venue, and his case was transferred to Cass County, and the date of his trial at Beardstown was set for May 6th, 1858.

During the early life of Lincoln, his home was at Old Salem, where among his neighbors and friends lived the Armstrong Family, and Mrs. Armstrong was particularly kind to the Motherless Lincoln. Lincoln had never forgotten these friends of his youth, and when the mother of "Duff" appealed to Lincoln to defend her son at his trial for the murder of Metzger, he consented, altho the necessary time which would have to be spent at Beardstown, could not conveniently be spared. When, on May 6, 1858, the case came up for trial, Lincoln was on hand, and in a remarkably short time, the jury, composed for the most part of farmers, was selected, and the trial speedily underway. From the very first, the testimony was not favorable to Armstrong, and finally when Charles Allen, the star witness for the State testified



The City Hall of Beardstown, Illinois formerly the Courthouse that at a distance of 100 feet, with the moon shining brightly almost directly over head at 10.00 PM, he had seen Armstrong strike the fatal blow Duff's case seemed almost hopeless. Lincoln, thereupon sent to a neighboring drug store (Still in business 1929) for a copy of Jayne's Almanac for 1857, and after it had been accepted as evidence by the court, Lincoln turned to the date of the murder, August 29th, 1857, and showing it to the jury, proved that at 10.00 PM on that night, the moon was hanging low in the Western horizon about ready to set, instead of shining brightly as testified by Charles Allen. The case went to the jury after argument and in 45 minutes, a verdict of not guilty was rendered, and Armstrong released.

Mrs. Armstrong, Duff's mother embracing Lincoln offered him a fee, but Lincoln refused it, as he knew that Mrs. Armstrong could ill afford the amount tendered.

In 1909, the old building was remodelled, and a bronze tablet placed on its front reads, "In Memory of Abraham Lincoln, who for the sake of a mother in distress cleared her son 'Duff' Armstrong of a charge of murder on May 7th, 1858" Presented by the Woman's Club of Beardstown, Illinois in February 1909"

Beardstown, Ill.

Lincoln Questionnaire

Name of town Beardstown County Cass State Illinois

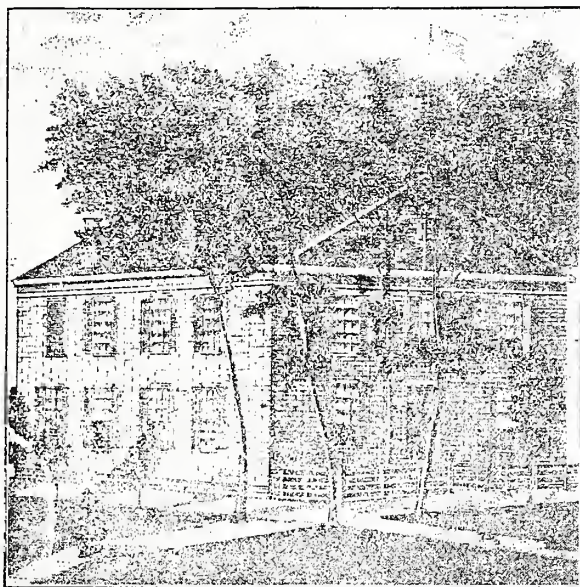
Date or dates when Lincoln spoke there Lincoln opened his campaign for
senator at Beardstown on August 12th, 1858
Has a marker or monument ever been erected to commemorate his address? No

If so, when was it dedicated? _____

Is any literature referring to it, or a photograph of it available?

Any further information such as donor, inscription on tablet, or other data of
interest would be appreciated.

WHEN BEARDSTOWN WAS THE COUNTY SEAT OF CASS CO.



This is how the Beardstown City Hall building, then the Cass County Court House, appeared early in the 18th century. This is the original building in which Lincoln conducted the defense of "Duff" Armstrong charged with murder. While the structure has undergone some changes it looks much the same today as it did in those early days.

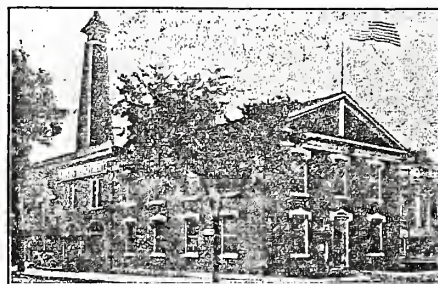
When Beardstown was the county seat this old building—now the city hall—was the county court house. It was built in 1845 by Thomas Beard and B. W. Schneider, the building fund being provided by the city.

Thomas J. Savaders gave the lot on which the courthouse was erected to the county. B. W. Schneider, contractor, built the court house and Thomas Beard erected

the jail. The buildings were approved by the Hon. Samuel D. Lockwood, presiding judge of the Cass Circuit court, and the first meeting of the court was held Monday, March 3, 1845, at Beardstown. Meetings continued to be held here until 1875, when court was moved to Virginia.

This famous old court house was the scene of the historic

Present City Hall Building



ly famous "Armstrong Murder trial" in which Abraham Lincoln was attorney for the defense. When the county seat was transferred to Virginia the building was vacated as a court house and was then used for some seven or eight years as a school, as a meeting place for several church organizations and as a community hall and later became the Beardstown City Hall.

Most of the building stands today just as it was erected by Thomas Beard, the city's founder. The old windows with the small panes have been torn out and the present panes installed. Metal ceilings and coat after coat of paint, and concrete floors down stairs are about the only changes.

At the rear of the building was the old county jail and sheriff's residence. For years the Beardstown city marshal has occupied the old sheriff's residence quarters and the jail section has been the city jail.

Necessary walls and roof to connect the jail section with the main city hall buildings, formed a suitable building for the "Fire Department," and here is housed the only fire equipment the city owns.

The tower of course houses the old "fire bell" and it's still in use today although the city has installed a "siren whistle" at the water

years, as a means of public alarm.

This building is more closely identified with the city's early history than any other building now standing. Here public meetings of every character have been held, churches have been organized in its assembly room, here the citizens have gathered to discuss every important problem and to consider means and methods in every crisis—even unto and including that of flood protection—the menace that seemed equally as serious in recent years as the copper-colored savages, storms, earthquakes, pestilence and the other hardships of the pioneer years.

In 1909, on the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln the club erected a bronze tablet on the city hall "In memory of Abraham Lincoln who for the sake of a mother in distress, cleared her son, Duff Armstrong, of the charge of murder in this hall of justice, May 7th, 1858."

county was located near where Pleasantview now is, and strangely enough, that was named Beardstown, too. Perrin states in his history of Cass county, 1882, that why this was so named, so soon after Thomas Beard had named his town, was then past finding out.

However the location was soon after moved to Rushville, or Rushville, as it was first called.

Ill. State Journal 6/30/56
ILL., TUESDAY, JUNE

Beardstown City Hall Is Scene Of Armstrong Trial

The Beardstown city hall, formerly the Cass county courthouse, is the scene of the famous Armstrong murder trial, where Lincoln cleared Duff Armstrong, son of Jack Armstrong whom he bested in the famed wrestling match at New Salem.

Lincoln tendered his services free to Mrs. Hannah Armstrong, mother of the defendant. The state's leading witness, Charles Allen, testified that Armstrong struck the fatal blow at 11 p. m.

In response to a question by Lincoln, Allen explained he could see clearly in the bright moonlight. Lincoln then produced an almanac, which he exhibited to the jury, showing that the moon was already setting at that hour. Armstrong was quickly acquitted.

Pistol History

Sidearm believed to have been at murder trial with Lincoln

By LISA KERNEK
STAFF WRITER

Published Tuesday, October 11, 2005

BEARDSTOWN - In 1858, Cass County Sheriff James Dick is believed to have guarded a man on trial for murder in Beardstown.

Also in the courtroom was Abraham Lincoln, then working as a lawyer. Lincoln used an almanac to discredit a witness and win acquittal of the defendant, William "Duff" Armstrong.

On Wednesday, Dick's great-grandson will donate his ancestor's sidearm to the courtroom museum where the "almanac trial" took place.

The public is invited to an open house set at 10 a.m. at the Lincoln Courtroom, 101 W. Third St. At 11 a.m., descendant Richard Dick will make the donation for display in the courtroom. He also is expected to announce the amount of a matching grant he is making to encourage people to donate to the Lincoln Courtroom museum.

A luncheon will follow at noon at Cafe from Yesterday, 112 E. Second St. Guests are asked to pay their own way.

Richard Dick grew up in Beardstown and now lives in Newport Beach, Calif. He was in Springfield Monday to tour the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum.

The sidearm, a Smith and Wesson pistol, was found in the ruins of a fire that destroyed James Dick's house in 1936, he said.

Richard Dick said he is looking for but hadn't yet found evidence that the sidearm was the same one James Dick carried at the almanac trial. Since James Dick was sheriff at the time, he's assumed to have accompanied Armstrong.

"Until we authenticate this, better to say we're presenting a pistol carried by James Dick during his tenure as sheriff," Richard Dick said.

"We're fairly sure he carried it when he was sheriff."

Richard Dick said he called up friends in Beardstown when he knew he would be in the Midwest for a college reunion. He offered to donate the pistol to the courtroom museum.

"I thought, 'What do I need with this pistol?'" he said.

Sheriff Dick's name is absent from written accounts of the trial on file at Lincoln Library in Springfield, said Curtis Mann, who manages the Sangamon Valley Collection of regional history.

But the absence of documentation doesn't mean Dick was absent from the courtroom.

"It makes sense to me that he probably was" in the courtroom, Mann said. "That's an assumption, but it seems like a logical one to me."

The courtroom where the trial took place is preserved as a museum and is still a working courtroom, though the main Cass County Courthouse was moved when the county seat moved from Beardstown to Virginia.

Lincoln won the case by using an almanac to discredit a witness who said he saw the crime by the light of a bright moon that was three-quarters full. But the almanac showed that the moon would have been setting at the time of the crime.

Lisa Kernek can be reached at 788-1459 or lisa.kernek@sj-r.com.

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Rededication of Lincoln Courtroom and Museum

tristatesradio.com

Some new touches have been added to the Old Lincoln Courtroom and Museum in Beardstown.

Five monitors have been installed to provide a video tour of the courtroom and museum. The tours are done in English and, because of the town's sizeable Latino population, Spanish.



Credit Rich Egger

"A lot of the children are now bilingual and can speak English, but their parents can't. So now they can come to the museum with their children and push the Hispanic narration and know exactly what they're seeing," said Connie Foley, who oversaw the fundraising campaign for the project.

She said they're making plans to add a third language because of the increasing number of French-speaking people moving into the community.

All of the money for the project was raised locally. It included a "Penny for Lincoln" campaign in the public and private schools.

The courtroom is renowned because it's where Abraham Lincoln won the "Almanac Trial" in 1858. The courtroom is still used occasionally today, and it's the only remaining active courtroom in which Lincoln practiced law.

Foley said the idea for the video tours came from a trip she made with her husband to Biloxi, MI. She said the town's museum and visitors' center, along with many artifacts, had been destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. So when the facility was rebuilt, monitors were installed to give visitors a video tour of the town's history and to show artifacts.

"And I thought, 'What a great idea. We should do something like that here.' And that's how it started," said Foley.

Illinois Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon was among those who attended the rededication ceremony for the Old Lincoln Courtroom and Museum. Simon is a former prosecutor, and said the "Almanac Trial" is almost legendary among attorneys.

Simon hoped the museum and courtroom will inspire children to get involved in politics and their communities.

Belleville, Ill.

Lincoln addressed a Republican
meeting in Belleville, Oct. 18, 1856,
along with Lyman Trumbull, Gus-
tave Koerner and William H. Bissell.

Belleville.com

Posted on Fri, Jan. 06, 2006

Lincoln balcony is found safe in St. Louis garage

Mystery solved.

The wrought iron balcony from which Abraham Lincoln addressed a gathering in Belleville on Oct. 18, 1856, is in a garage in St. Louis.

Attorney Michael Aufdenspring's family received the balcony from Cathedral High School teacher Brother Norbert Kraemer in the late 1950s.

Kraemer got the balcony from the home of Belleville butcher Dominic Kronenberger when it was razed to make way for Cathedral grade school.

Kronenberger had rescued the balcony when the old John Scheel house at 208 S. Illinois St. was torn down.

Despite being at least 150 years old and spending many years in his backyard, Aufdenspring said the balcony still is in pretty good shape. He no longer has the wood floor, but the wrought iron railing and brackets are mostly intact.

Aufdenspring discussed selling it to the Labor and Industry Museum or the Gustave Koerner House Restoration Committee, but was unable to reach an agreement.

But he's looking to sell. If he can't find a local collector or museum, Aufdenspring said he may try to auction it on Ebay.

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<http://www.belleville.com>

Belleville.com

Posted on Fri, Jan. 06, 2006

WEB EXTRA: Belleville Advocate covers Lincoln's visit

Editor's note: The following is the article about Lincoln's visit published in the Weekly Belleville Advocate on Oct. 22, 1856, describing Abraham Lincoln's visit to Belleville on Oct. 18, 1856. Lincoln was in Belleville during the campaign for the Republican Party's first presidential candidate, western explorer John C. Fremont, on whose behalf Lincoln made dozens of speeches across Illinois. In 1856 the party campaigned against slavery's expansion to the west, especially in the Kansas Territory where there was significant violence during the time. The Fremont campaign came two years before Lincoln ran for U.S. Senate with the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates and four years before Lincoln was the GOP candidate for president. Lincoln's ties to Belleville were important during the 1860 presidential campaign. Belleville's Gustavus Koerner helped Lincoln draft the Republican platform, including the anti-slavery plank that put Lincoln in the White House.

Republican Mass Meeting of Saturday

Speeches by Lyman Trumbull, Abraham Lincoln, Alexander Kayser, Josiah Miller, of Kansas, F. Grim, and Dr. Hammer, of St. Louis.

Splendid Torch-Light Procession

A magnificent demonstration in favor of Fremont and Bissell, and in favor of Free Kansas and the rights of man in opposition to Border Ruffianism and Slavery extension, took place in Belleville on Saturday last, the 18th. The number in procession and hearing the speakers, might be estimated at five or six thousand. Lebanon came in at an early hour, three hundred strong, having traveled twelve miles. Mascoutah, from an equal distance, came in with a force not far behind her rival. Her neighbor, Fayetteville, was well represented. Centreville displayed a strong array. Monroe County and Waterloo were on the ground by a depation with banners and mottoes. Many of these of all the delegations were very beautiful and appropriate. "Fremont and Free Soil," "Union and Liberty," "Cara Patria, Carior Libertas," "We earn the bread we eat; we eat the bread we earn," and many others. The last mentioned was alluded to by Mr. Lincoln in one of the most thrilling bursts of eloquence ever uttered in behalf of Liberty and the roiling millions.

From all the country round, the people came in animated with a single feeling that the reign of Ruffianism and the advance of Slavery ought to be checked. One sentiment for Freedom in National Territories spoke forth in men's words and countenances, from the banners, from the music of the bands and the thundering of the cannon. The procession, having received the delegation from St. Louis at the Railroad, in which were A. Kayser, Karl Denzer, of the Anzeiger Des Westens, and Dr. Hammer, marched through the principal streets, and at 1 p.m. assembled at the speakers' stand. The people were disappointed in not seeing and hearing our eloquent Republican, Speaker Banks, whose promise to be present had been given. His absence, we hope, was excusable, if not, he will please consider himself reprimanded by his numerous friends and co-laborers of Southern Illinois. His strong and logical reasoning would have added much to the rich intellectual treat which was served up to the largest gathering ever seen in this part of the country.

We have given the substance of Senator Trumbull's speech. We regret that our space precludes for the present that of Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Miller's. All the speakers displayed much ability; our true representative spoke, as he always does, with power and effect. The palm, however, belongs to Mr. Lincoln; his was the speech of the day. We have heard him twice before, at Bloomington, on the 20th of May last, and at Springfield, on the 25th ult. The delighted thousands who heard him then will appreciate his eloquence when they learn that he surpassed those efforts in his speech to the vast assembly of Republicans in Belleville. He showed that there are only two parties and only two questions now before the voters. A Kentuckian, as he is, familiar with Slavery and its evil, he vindicated the cause of free labor, "that national capital," in the language of Col. Fremont, "which constitutes the real wealth of this great country, and creates that intelligent power in the masses alone to be relied on as the bulwark of free institutions." He shows the tendency and aim of the Sham Democracy to degrade labor to subvert the true ends of Government and build up Aristocracy, Despotism and Slavery. The platforms of Buchanan and Fremont were contrasted, and the opposite tendency of each to the other was shown with the clearness of light. The rights of man were eloquently vindicated. The only object of government, the good of the governed, not the interests of Slave-holders -- the securing of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; this true end of all Government was well enforced. The Kentuckian, Lincoln, defended the Declaration of American Independence against the attacks of the degenerate Vermonter, Douglas, and against Breckenridge and the whole ruling class of the South. Here was a Southerner, with eloquence that would bear a comparison with Henry Clay's, defending Liberty and the North against the leaders of

the Border Ruffians and Doughfaces of Illinois. Stephen A. Douglas, the traitor to Freedom, was exposed, and his arguments refuted by Lincoln. This associate of Hecker referred to the Germans and the noble position taken by them in just the dignified terms. When he called down the blessings of the Almighty on their heads, a thrill of sympathy and pleasure ran through his whole audience. They all rejoiced that clap-traps, false issues and humbugs are powerless with the great heart of Germany in America. Lincoln and Hecker were inscribed on many banners. They are worthy advocates of a worthy cause -- honest men and lovers of Liberty, whose hearts beat in unison with the heart of the people all over the world. Patrick Henry and Jefferson and Washington were not more devoted to our great and noble cause than are these two eloquent men. They are as true Democrats as ever trod the earth, and what is more in modern America, they are Republicans. Compared with Douglas, Lincoln is like Hyperion to a Satyr. The one is a man of genius, of ideas, of principle, of eloquence, and the noblest work of God -- an honest man. The other is the friend and associate of Don Morrison -- a man of mere words, a stump orator of mechanical clap-trap, without ideas, and hardly with the pretension to any principle or honesty. Such are the representatives of the principal parties in our State. Let Abraham Lincoln succeed Stephen A. Douglas in the Senate of the United States. Let the Republican press nominate him. Let the Republican party elect him to that high office. It will be a great trust bestowed upon integrity and capability. It will be a high honor conferred upon high merit. Lincoln deserves well of the Republic; all honor to him.

Mr. Kayser followed Mr. Lincoln with an eloquent speech in German, when the meeting adjourned to meet at night on the Public Square.

At dark, an immense procession of thousands bearing 800 torches and 30 ornamented lanterns on poles, with music and banners, serenaded Messrs. Koerner, Bissel, Trumbull and Lincoln, and after marching through the town, assembled on the Square in front of the balcony of the Court house, whence Mr. Josiah Miller, late of Kansas, addressed them. He was the proprietor of the Kansas Free State newspaper of Lawrence, destroyed by the Border Ruffian mob on the 21st of May last. His library and all his property, even the shirts in his trunk, were destroyed or stolen. His stock of paper on hand was used to kindle into flames the Free State Hotel, the finest building West of St. Louis, after their cannon had failed to effect the walls. He narrated a few of the outrages, his own arrest and trial before a robber band of South Carolinians for treason on that state, being himself a native of South Carolina. He read the disgraceful pass of Shannon and Donaldson by which he was enabled to escape from the Territory. He told the bloody incidents of a few of the murders which have thrust two hundred men into bloody graves or into the Missouri River, and made maniacs of wives. His tale is that of hundreds of exiles like himself, substantiated by the Kansas Committee and by reliable reports in every honest journal. If any thing could, these things would rouse the North to action. But no, not a single Free State, not a Legislature has yet given any signs of life. The North is as dumb as an oyster and as tame as a dishrag. The speech of Strongfellow in the Border Ruffian Legislature, as given by Mr. Miller, was characteristic. "This Legislature has cost Missouri a great deal of money; we must pass laws that will make Kansas too hot for the d...d Abolitionists, laws that will drive them out or compel them to take up arms, and then we have them guilty of treason to the United States." Such has been the policy of Pierce, Douglas and the "Democracy." And yet in the face of such infamy, with men crushed to the earth, like Mr. Miller, the North is only thinking of trading, money-making and preserving the Union. If you vote for Fremont you will dissolve the Union; this is the cry now raised to perpetuate the reign of Border Ruffianism. Mr. Miller alluded to the quiet now prevailing in Kansas, with the murderers all at liberty, and the Free State men driven off or in jail. This is quiet, the quiet of the grave. Mr. Miller's speech made a powerful impression. He was followed by Messrs. Grim and Hammer to stirring addresses.

Calls were made for Dr. Wenzell and Mr. Denzer. These gentlemen having retired to rest, the crowd dispersed before midnight. The day was a glorious one, showing how the popular heart beats on the question of Freedom.

FOUNDER OF ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE TO DEDICATE BRONZE TABLET TO LINCOLN'S MEMORY AT SOUTH FORK

5-29-1927

M. State Register

Dr. Howard Hyde Russell of Westerville, Ohio, founder of the Anti-Saloon league and the Lincoln-Lee legion, this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock will dedicate a tablet to Abraham Lincoln, the "temperance patriot," at the South Fork Christian church at Berry, Sangamon county.

A patriotic program has been planned with Dr. Russell's dedicatory speech as the main event. Rev. W. A. Rothenburger of the First Christian church of Springfield will preside.

The school house across the road from the church is said to be the spot where Lincoln, in 1846, made a temperance address and produced a pledge of total abstinence, which he signed and gave to the others, many of whom also signed it.

In 1903 four of the five known sur-

viving members of Lincoln's audience of that warm summer day met in Springfield and one, Moses Martin of Edinburg, who acted as secretary of the meeting, repeated the pledge he had memorized. Soon after the Lincoln

legion, later to be the Lincoln-Lee legion, was formed. It is said 6,000,000 have since signed that pledge.

Brought Pledge

Cleopas Breckenridge of Breckenridge Station first brought the pledge to the Anti-Saloon league in 1902, when he met in Springfield with Dr. Russell and told the story of the meeting. Later it was found that R. E. Berry and Almarrinda Galloway both living near Edinburg, had attended the meeting and signed the pledge. A fifth, Mrs. Katherine Randolph of Seattle, is still alive, the sole surviving member of the school house audience, a sister of Cleopas Breckenridge.

The tablet to be unveiled recites a short history of the meeting and names the four deceased signers of the pledge.

Dr. Russell in his address will bring out Lincoln's proclivities, as he has been told them, toward temperance, citing points in the war president's life when he is said to have practiced and advocated total abstinence.

Program at Services.

George W. Wilson, former dry leader in the state legislature, will introduce Dr. Russell at the meeting. Following is the program for the services:

Song, America—Audience.

Prayer—Rev. W. A. Rothenburger, pastor of the First Christian church, Springfield.

Address—Captain H. P. Hart of Roby.

Whistling solo, The Light of Home—Dorritt Mayfield, Breckenridge.

Address—Dr. Howard Hyde Russell.

Unveiling of tablet—Miss Pelham Simpson, Breckenridge.

Formal dedication—Doctor Russell.

Benediction—Doctor Rothenburger.

If good weather prevails, many temperance enthusiasts from Springfield and other nearby cities are expected to attend. The church is located 16 miles southeast of Springfield.

Carrollton , Ill.

Took Yates' Place In Greene.

Lincoln spoke in Carrollton on Aug. 28, 1854, in the place of Richard Yates. He advocated the repeal of the Nebraska bill and the retention of the fugitive slave law. 6-30-36

Ill. St. Journal

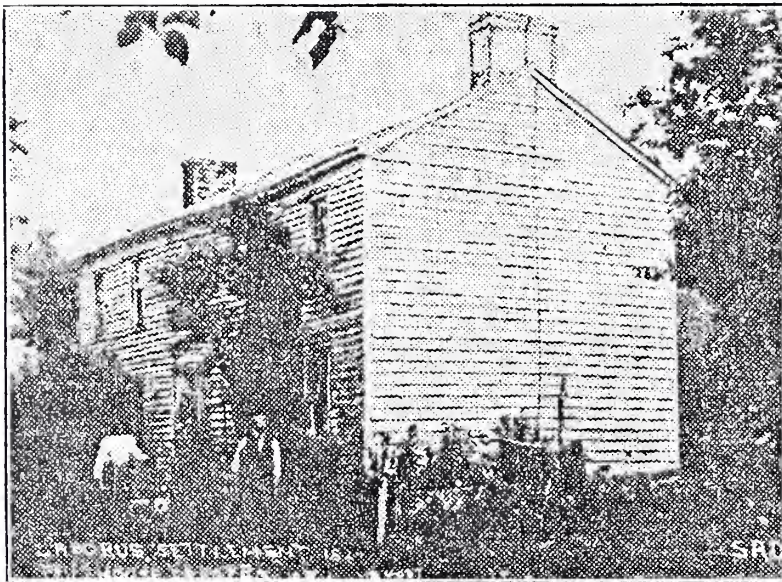
Carthage, Ill.

6/10/36 In Carthage In 1858.

Lincoln spoke in Carthage on Oct. 22, 1858, during his senatorial campaign. He addressed a crowd estimated at six thousand, and some two thousand women were in a procession which passed the house where he was staying. *Ill. St. Journal*

Germany in Hard

House Made Famous by Lincoln's Visits



Historic Sadorus House in Champaign, Ill.

Following a story in the Sunday Register describing the dilapidated state of the oldest house in Champaign county, Ill., made famous by the many visits of Abraham Lincoln, the above picture was sent to The Register by Mrs. Elizabeth B. Dubridge, 2201 York street. Mrs. Dubridge is a descendant of the Sadorus family which built the

house. It was while William Sadorus, father of an uncle of Mrs. Dubridge, lived in the house that Lincoln made it his frequent stopping place in the days when he was a lawyer and circuit rider.

The house is now said to be falling into ruins. An effort is being made to restore it and preserve it as a monument of pioneer days.

Champaign, Ill.

Evening Talk In Champaign.

On Oct. 21, 1856, in the evening,
Abraham Lincoln, Leonard Swett and
Harvey Hogg spoke in West Urbana,
now Champaign. *Ill. St. Journal*

PANTAGRAPH.COM

City will rededicate statue of Lincoln

By Edith Brady-Lunny
edlunny@mchsi.com

CLINTON -- A statue of Abraham Lincoln will be rededicated on July 27, the anniversary of a speech often cited as the source of one of the most famous quotes attributed to him.

The Clinton Looking for Lincoln Committee will host the ceremony at 7 p.m. at Mr. Lincoln's Square in downtown Clinton.

The committee chose July 27 as the date for the ceremony because Lincoln made a speech in Clinton on July 27, 1858. In that speech, Lincoln is reputed to have said: "You can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time."

Illinois state historian Tom Schwartz has said the quote has been attributed to the Clinton speech and also to talks Lincoln gave in Lincoln and Bloomington. The historian said the evidence for the quote is thin, but it has become closely identified with Lincoln.

The Lincoln statue by Albert L. Van Den Bergen was first dedicated on Nov. 11, 1931. That ceremony began at the Clinton United Methodist Church three blocks east of the square and ended on the lawn of the former courthouse.

The 2006 dedication service will include recognition of the families of 10 Civil War veterans who were present for the 1931 dedication. Any residents who attended the 1931 ceremony also will be recognized.

The statute dedication also will include several local speakers who will talk about the former president.

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ILLINOIS TOWNS A-C

DRAWER 12A

ILLINOIS TOWNS